

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Akira Sekine, et al.

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: N/A

Filed: May 17, 2001

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR  
COMPREHENSIVE MANAGEMENT OF  
CHEMICAL MATERIALS

**FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Box Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S.  
patent application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

On page 9, please re-write lines 17-19 as follows:

Figs. 2(a) through 2(d) illustrate examples of the data structure of each database  
in the system for comprehensive management of chemical substances in one embodiment  
of the present invention;